

# RAP

**RANT**. *n. f.* [from the verb.] High sounding language unsupported by dignity of thought.  
 Dryden himself, to please a frantick age,  
 Was forc'd to let his judgment stoop to rage,  
 To a wild audience he conform'd his voice,  
 Comply'd to custom, but not err'd through choice;  
 Deem then the people's, not the writer's sin,  
 Almanzor's rage, and *rants* of Maximin. *Granville.*  
 This is a frolic *rant*, without any foundation in the nature  
 of man or reason of things. *Atterbury's Preface.*  
**RANTER**. *n. f.* [from *rant*.] A ranting fellow.  
**RANTIPOLE**. *adj.* [this word is wantonly formed from *rant*.]  
 Wild; roving; rakish. A low word.  
 What at years of discretion, and comport yourself at this  
*rantipole* rate! *Congreve's Way of the World.*  
**TO RANTIPOLE**. *v. n.* To run about wildly. It is a low word.  
 The eldest was a termagant imperious wench; she used to  
*rantipole* about the house, pinch the children, kick the ser-  
 vants, and torture the cats and dogs. *Arbutnot.*  
**RANULA**. *n. f.* [Latin.]  
*Ranula* is a soft swelling, possessing those salivary under the  
 tongue: it is made by congestion, and its progress filth up  
 the space between the jaws, and maketh a tumour externally  
 under the chin. *Wijeman's Surgery.*  
**RANUNCULUS**. *n. f.* Crowfoot.  
*Ranunculuses* excel all flowers in the richness of their col-  
 ours: of them there is a great variety. *Mortimer.*  
**TO RAP**. *v. n.* [happan, Saxon.] To strike with a quick  
 smart blow.  
 Knock me at this gate  
 And *rap* me well, or I'll knock your knave's pate. *Shakefp.*  
 With one great peal they *rap* the door,  
 Like footmen on a visiting day. *Prior.*  
 He was provoked in the spirit of magistracy, upon disco-  
 vering a judge, who *rapped* out a great oath at his footman.  
*Addison.*  
**TO RAP**. *v. a.* [from *rapio extra se*, Lat.]  
 1. To afflict with rapture; to strike with ecstasy; to hurry out  
 of himself.  
 These are speeches of men, not comforted with the hope  
 of that they desire, but *rapped* with admiration at the view  
 of enjoyed bliss. *Hooker.*  
 Beholding the face of God, in admiration of so great  
 excellency, they all adore him; and being *rap* with the love  
 of his beauty, they cleave inseparably for ever unto him. *Hook.*  
 What, thus *rap*s you? are you well? *Shakefp.*  
 The government I cast upon my brother,  
 And to my state grew stranger, being transported  
 And *rap* in secret studies. *Shakefp.*  
 You're *rap* in some work, some dedication  
 To the great lord. *Shakefp. Timon of Athens.*  
 I'm *rap* with joy to see my Marcia's tears. *Addis. Cato.*  
 It is impossible duly to consider these things, without being  
*rap* into admiration of the infinite wisdom of the divine ar-  
 chitect. *Cheyne's Philosophical Principles.*  
*Rap* into future times, the bard begun,  
 A virgin shall conceive, a virgin bear a son!  
 Let heav'n seize it, all at once 'tis fir'd,  
 Not touch'd, but *rap*; not waken'd, but inspir'd. *Pope.*  
 2. To snatch away.  
 He leaves the welkin way most beaten plain,  
 And *rap* with whirling wheels, inflames the skyen,  
 With fire not made to burn, but fairly for to flyne. *F. 2.*  
 Underneath a bright sea flow'd  
 Of Jasper, or of liquid pearl, whereon  
 Who after came from earth, falling arriv'd  
 Wafted by angels, or flew o'er the lake  
*Rap*'d in a chariot drawn by fiery steeds. *Milton.*  
 Standing on earth, not *rap* above the pole. *Milton.*  
**TO RAP and rend**. [more properly *rap* and *ren*; happan, Saxon,  
 to bind, and *ragus*, Islandick, to plunder.] To seize by  
 violence.  
 Their husbands robb'd, and made hard shifts  
 To administer unto their gifts  
 All they could *rap* and *rend* and pilfer,  
 To scraps and ends of gold and silver. *Hudibras, p. ii.*  
**RAP**. *n. f.* [from the verb.] A quick smart blow.  
 How comest thou to go with thy arm tied up? has old  
 Lewis given thee a *rap* over thy fingers ends? *Arbutnot.*  
**RAPACIOUS**. *adj.* [rapax, Fr. rapax, Lat.] Given to plun-  
 der; seizing by violence.  
 Well may thy Lord, appeas'd,  
 Redeem thee quite from death's rapacious claim. *Milton.*  
 Shall this prize,  
 Soon heighten'd by the diamond's circling rays,  
 On that rapacious hand for ever blaze? *Pope.*  
**RAPACIOUSLY**. *adv.* [from rapacious.] By rapine; by violent  
 robbery.  
**RAPACIOUSNESS**. *n. f.* [from rapacious.] The quality of  
 being rapacious.  
**RAPACITY**. *n. f.* [rapacitas, Lat. rapacitas, Fr. from rapax.]  
 Addictedness to plunder; exercise of plunder; ravenousness.

# RAP

Any of these, without regarding the pains of churchmen,  
 grudge them those small remains of ancient piety, which the  
*rapacity* of some ages has scarce left to the church. *Sprat.*  
**RAP**. *n. f.* [rapt, Fr. raptus, Latin.]  
 1. Violent delirium of chaffity.  
 You are both decypher'd  
 For villains mark'd with *rape*. *Shakefp. Titus Andronicus.*  
*Rape* call you it, to seize my own,  
 My true betroth'd love. *Shakefp. Titus Andronicus.*  
 The parliament conceived, that the obtaining of women by  
 force into possession, howsoever afterwards assent might follow  
 by allurements, was but a *rape* drawn forth in length, because  
 the first force drew on all the rest. *Bacon's Henry VII.*  
 Witneth that night  
 In Gibeah, when the hospitable door  
 Expos'd a matron, to avoid worse *rape*. *Milton.*  
 The haughty fair,  
 Who not the *rape* ev'n of a god could bear.  
 Tell Thracian tyrant's alter'd shape,  
 And dire revenge of Philomela's *rape*. *Dryden.*  
 2. Privation; act of taking away.  
 Fear grew after fear,  
 Fig after fig came; time made never *rape*  
 Of any dainty there. *Chapman's Odyssey.*  
 3. Something snatched away.  
 Sad widows by thee rifled, weep in vain,  
 And ruin'd orphans of thy *rapes* complain. *Sandys.*  
 Where now are all my hopes? oh never more  
 Shall they revive! nor death her *rapes* restore! *Sandys.*  
 4. The juice of grapes is drawn as well from the *rape*, or  
 whole grapes pluck'd from the cluster, and wine pour'd upon  
 them in a vessel, as from a vat, where they are bruised. *Ray.*  
 5. A plant, from the seed of which oil is expressed.  
**RAPID**. *adj.* [rapidus, Fr. rapidus, Lat.] Quick; swift.  
 Part shun the goal with *rapid* wheels. *Milton.*  
 While you so smoothly turn and rowl our sphere,  
 That *rapid* motion does but rest appear. *Dryden.*  
**RAPIDITY**. *n. f.* [rapiditas, Fr. rapiditas, from rapidus, Lat.]  
 Celerity; velocity; swiftness.  
 Where the words are not monosyllables, we make them so  
 by our *rapidity* of pronunciation. *Addison's Spectator.*  
**RAPIDLY**. *adv.* [from rapid.] Swiftly; with quick motion.  
**RAPIDNESS**. *n. f.* [from rapid.] Celerity; swiftness.  
**RAPIER**. *n. f.* [rapier, Fr. so called from the quickness of its  
 motion.] A small sword used only in thrusting.  
 I will turn thy falsehood to thy heart,  
 Where it was forged, with my *rapier's* point. *Shakefp.*  
 A soldier of far inferior strength may manage a *rapier* or  
 fire-arms so expertly, as to be an overmatch for his adver-  
 sary. *Pope's Essay on Homer's Bathus.*  
**RAPIER-FISH**. *n. f.*  
 The *rapier-fish*, called xiphias, grows sometimes to the  
 length of five yards: the sword, which grows level from the  
 snout of the fish, is here about a yard long, at the basis four  
 inches over, two-edged, and pointed exactly like a *rapier*:  
 he preys on fishes, having first stabbed them with this  
 sword. *Grew's Museum.*  
**RAPINE**. *n. f.* [rapina, Lat. rapine, Fr.]  
 1. The act of plundering.  
 If the poverty of Scotland might, yet the plenty of Eng-  
 land cannot, excuse the envy and *rapine* of the church's  
 rights. *King Charles.*  
 The logic of a conquering sword may silence, but con-  
 vince it cannot; its efficacy rather breeds aversion and abhor-  
 rence of that religion, whose first address is in blood and  
*rapine*. *Decay of Piety.*  
 2. Violence; force.  
 Her least action overaw'd  
 His malice, and with *rapine* sweet bereav'd  
 His fierceness of its fierce intent. *Milton.*  
**RAPPER**. *n. f.* [from rap.] One who strikes.  
**RAPPORT**. *n. f.* [rappat, Fr.] Relation; reference; propor-  
 tion. A word introduced by the innovator, *Temple*, but not  
 copied by others.  
 'Tis obvious what *rapport* there is between the conceptions  
 and languages in every country, and how great a difference  
 this must make in the excellence of books. *Temple.*  
**TO RAP**. *v. n.* [this word is used by *Chapman* for *rap* impro-  
 perly, as appears from the participle, which from *rap* would  
 be not *rap*, but *rapied*.] To ravish; to put in ecstasy.  
 You may safe approve,  
 How strong in infatuation to their love  
 Their *raping* tunes are. *Chapman's Odyssey.*  
**RAPT**. *n. f.* [from rap.] A trance; an ecstasy.  
**RAPTURE**. *n. f.*  
 1. Ecstasy; transport; violence of any pleasing passion; en-  
 thusiasm; uncommon heat of imagination.  
 Musick, when thus applied, raises in the mind of the hearer  
 great conceptions; it strengthens devotion, and advances  
 praise into *rapture*. *Addison's Spectator, N° 406.*  
 You grow correct, that once with *rapture* writ. *Pope.*

# RAR

2. Rapidity; haste.  
 The wat'ry throng,  
 Wave rowling after wave, where way they found,  
 If steep, with torrent *rapture*; if through plain  
 Soft-cbbing; nor with flood them rock or hill. *Milton.*  
**RAPTURED**. *adj.* [from *rapture*.] Ravished; transported.  
 A bad word.  
 He drew  
 Such madd'ning draughts of beauty to the soul,  
 As for a while cancell'd his *raptur'd* thought  
 With luxury too daring. *Thomson's Summer.*  
**RAPTUREOUS**. *adj.* [from *rapture*.] Ecstatick; transporting.  
 Are the pleasures of it so inviting and *raptureous*? is a man  
 bound to look out sharp to plague himself? *Collier.*  
**RARE**. *adj.* [rarus, Lat. rare, Fr. in all the senses but the  
 last.]  
 1. Scarce; uncommon.  
 Live to be rare, and gaze o' th' time;  
 We'll have you, as our *rare* monsters are,  
 Painted upon a pole. *Shakefp.*  
 2. Excellent; incomparable; valuable to a degree seldom found.  
 This jealousy  
 Is for a precious creature; as she's *rare*,  
 Must it be great; and as his person's mighty,  
 Must it be violent. *Shakefp. Winter's Tale.*  
 On which was wrought the gods and giants fight,  
*Rare* work, all fill'd with terror and delight. *Cowley.*  
 Above the rest I judge one beauty *rare*. *Dryden.*  
 3. Thinly scattered.  
 The carle in the fields and meadows green  
 Thole *rare* and solitary, these in flocks  
 Pasturing at once, and in broad herds upspring. *Milton.*  
 4. Thin; subtle; not dense.  
 They are of so tender and weak a nature, as they affect  
 only such a *rare* and attenuate substance, as the spirit of living  
 creatures. *Bacon's Natural History.*  
 So eagerly the fiend  
 O'er bog or steep, through strait, rough, dense, or *rare*,  
 With head, hands, wings, or feet, purfues his way. *Mil.*  
 The dense and bright light of the circle will obscure the  
*rare* and weak light of these dark colours round about it, and  
 render them almost insensible. *Newton's Opticks.*  
 Bodies are much more *rare* and porous than is commonly  
 believed: water is nineteen times lighter, and by consequence  
 nineteen times *rarer* than gold, and gold is so *rare*, as very  
 readily, and without the least opposition, to transmit the  
 magnetic effluvia, and easily to admit quicksilver into its  
 pores, and to let water pass through it. *Newton's Opticks.*  
 5. Raw; not fully subdued by the fire. This is often pro-  
 nounced *rare*.  
 New-laid eggs, with Baucis's busy care,  
 Turn'd by a gentle fire, and roasted *rare*. *Dryden.*  
**RARESHOW**. *n. f.* [this word is formed in imitation of the  
 foreign way of pronouncing *rare show*.] A show carried in a  
 box.  
 The fashions of the town affect us just like a *rareshow*, we  
 have the curiosity to peep at them, and nothing more. *Pope.*  
 Of *rareshows* he sung, and Punch's feats. *Gay.*  
**RAREFACTION**. *n. f.* [rarefactio, Fr. from rarefy.] Exten-  
 sion of the parts of a body, that makes it take up more room  
 than it did before; contrary to condensation.  
 The water within being rarefied, and by *rarefaction* resolved  
 into wind, will force up the smoke. *Wotton's Architecture.*  
 When exhalations, shut up in the caverns of the earth by  
*rarefaction* or compression, come to be straitened, they strive  
 every way to set themselves at liberty. *Burnet.*  
**RAREFIABLE**. *adj.* [from rarefy.] Admitting rarefaction.  
**TO RAREFY**. *v. a.* [rarefier, Fr. rarus and facio, Lat. rarefy  
 were more proper.] To make thin: contrary to condense.  
 To the hot equator crowding fast,  
 Where highly *rarefied* the yielding air  
 Admits their steam. *Thomson.*  
**TO RAREFY**. *v. n.* To become thin.  
 Earth *rarefies* to dew; expanded more  
 The subtil dew in air begins to soar. *Dryden's Fables.*  
**RARELY**. *adv.* [from rare.]  
 1. Seldom; not often; not frequently.  
 Rarely they rise by virtue's aid, who lie  
 Plung'd in the depth of helpless poverty. *Dryden's Juven.*  
 Vanella in her bloom,  
 Advanc'd like *Atalanta's* star,  
 But rarely seen, and seen from far, *Swift's Miscellanies.*  
 2. Finely; nicely; accurately.  
 How *rarely* does it meet with this time's guide,  
 When man was will'd to love his enemies. *Shakefp.*  
**RARENESS**. *n. f.* [from rare.]  
 Tickling is most in the soles, arm-holes and sides: the  
 cause is the thinness of the skin, joined with the *rareness* of  
 the being touched there; for tickling is a light motion of the spi-  
 rits, which the thinness of the skin, the suddenness and *rare-  
 ness* of touch doth further. *Bacon.*

# RAS

For the *rareness* and rare effect of that petition, I'll insert  
 it as presented. *Clarendon.*  
 Of my heart I now a present make;  
 Accept it as when early fruit we fend,  
 And let the *rareness* the small gift commend. *Dryden.*  
 2. Value arising from scarcity.  
 Roses set in a pool, supported with some stay, is matter of  
*rareness* and pleasure, though of small use. *Bacon.*  
 To worthiest things,  
 Virtue, art, beauty, fortune, now I see  
*Rareness* or use, not nature, value brings. *Donne.*  
**RARITY**. *n. f.* [raritas, Fr. raritas, Lat.]  
 1. Uncommonness; infrequency.  
 So far from being fond of any one for its *rarity*, if I meet  
 with any in a field which pleases me, I give it a place in my  
 garden. *Spectator.*  
 2. A thing valued for its scarcity.  
 Sorrow would be a *rarity* most belov'd,  
 If all could so become it. *Shakefp. King Lear.*  
 It would be a *rarity* worth the seeing, could any one shew  
 us such a thing as a perfectly reconciled enemy. *South.*  
 I saw three *rarities* of different kinds, which pleased me  
 more than any other shews of the place. *Addison.*  
 3. Thinness; subtlety: the contrary to density.  
 Bodies, under the same outward bulk, have a greater thin-  
 ness and expansion, or thickness and solidity, which terms, in  
 English, do not signify fully those differences of quantity; there-  
 fore I will do it under the names of *rarity* and density. *Digby.*  
 This I do, not to draw any argument against them from  
 the universal rest or accurately equal diffusion of matter, but  
 only that I may better demonstrate the great *rarity* and tenuity  
 of their imaginary chaos. *Bentley's Sermons.*  
**RASCAL**. *n. f.* [rascal, Saxon, a lean beast.] A mean fel-  
 low; a scoundrel; a sorry wretch.  
 For the *rascal* commons, left he cared.  
 And when him list the *rascal* routs appal,  
 Men into stones therewith he could transmute. *Fa. Queen.*  
 When Marcus Brutus grows so covetous  
 To lock such *rascal* counters from his friends:  
 Be ready, gods, with all your thunder-bolts,  
 Dash him to pieces. *Shakefp. Julius Caesar.*  
 The *rascal* people, thirsting after prey,  
 Join with the traitor. *Shakefp. Henry VI. p. ii.*  
 But for our gentlemen,  
 The mouse ne'er thund' the cat, as they did budge  
 From *rascals* worse than they. *Shakefp.*  
 I am accus'd to rob in that thief's company; the *rascal* hath  
 remov'd my horse. *Shakefp. Henry IV. p. i.*  
 Scoundrels are insolent to their superiors; but it does not  
 become a man of honour to contest with mean *rascals*. *L'Estr.*  
 Did I not see you, *rascal*, did I not!  
 When you lay snug to snare young Damon's goat? *Dryden.*  
 I have sent, to serve my turn, in store,  
 And he's a *rascal* who pretends to more. *Dryden's Persius.*  
 The poor girl provoked told him he lyed like a *rascal*. *Sw.*  
**RASCALION**. *n. f.* [from *rascal*.] One of the lowest people.  
 That proud dame  
 Us'd him so like a base *rascalion*,  
 That old pig—what d'ye call him—malion,  
 That cut his mistress out of stone,  
 Had not so hard a hearted one. *Hudibras, p. i.*  
**RASCALITY**. *n. f.* [from *rascal*.] The low mean people.  
 Pretended philosophers judge as ignorantly in their way,  
 as the *rascality* in theirs. *Glanvill's Scopf.*  
 Jeroboam having procured his people gods, the next thing  
 was to provide priests; hereupon, to the calves he adds a  
 commission, for the approving, trying and admitting the *rascali-  
 ty* and lowest of the people to minister in that service. *South.*  
**RASCALLY**. *adj.* [from *rascal*.] Mean; worthless.  
 Would'st thou not be glad to have the niggardly *rascally*  
 sheep-biter come by some notable shame. *Shakefp.*  
 Our *rascally* porter is fallen fast asleep with the black cloth  
 and sconces, or we might have been tacking up by this  
 time. *Swift.*  
**TO RASE**. *v. a.* [this word is written *rase* or *raze*: I would  
 write *rase*, when it signifies to strike slightly, *perstringere*; and  
*raze*, when it signifies to ruin, *delere*; *razer*, Fr. *rasus*, Lat.]  
 1. To skim; to strike on the surface.  
 He certifies your lordship, that this night  
 He dreamt the boar had *rased* off his helm. *Shakefp.*  
 Was he not in the nearest neighbourhood to death? and  
 might not the bullet, that *rased* his cheek, have gone into  
 his head. *South's Sermons.*  
 2. To overthrow; to destroy; to root up.  
 Her battering engines bent to *rase* some city. *Milton.*  
 3. To blot out by rasure; to erase.  
 Though of their names in heav'nly records now  
 Be no memorial, blotted out and *rased*. *Milton.*  
**RASH**. *adj.* [rash, Dutch.] Hasty; violent; precipitate;  
 acting without caution or reflection.  
 This is to be bold without shame, *rash* without skill, full of  
 words without wit. *Afchan's Sebastianus.*  
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